

Serial No. 09/694293

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3731
PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kuehn

Examiner: V. Nguyen

Serial No.: 09/694293

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: October 23, 2000

Docket No.: 01610.0113-US-I1

Title: MITRAL AND TRICUSPID VALVE REPAIR

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

April 28, 2003
Date

Michele Read
Name

Communication Regarding Uninitialed References on Form 1449

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant is in receipt of an Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on January 27, 2003, but has not received notification that all of the references submitted have been considered. Applicant requests that the Form 1449 be initialed in the space provided to indicate that this document has been considered. The details follow.

Applicant filed an Information Disclosure Statement on January 19, 2001. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed on September 6, 2002. Applicant received initialed Form 1449s indicating the Examiner's acknowledgment of these references with the July 31, 2002 and January 27, 2003 Official Actions respectively. However, acknowledgment of another Supplemental IDS and Form 1449 citing four references thereon, filed on November 9, 2001, has not been received.

Applicant is submitting a courtesy copy of the Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449 filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 9, 2001 with a copy of the return postcard showing a Patent and Trademark

Office date stamp of January 10, 2002, indicating these documents were received. Applicant is not submitting copies of the references at this time. However, if the Examiner deems it necessary, copies of the cited prior art will be resubmitted.

Agent for the Applicant states that the above-referenced copies are true copies of the originally mailed correspondence.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner promptly return a copy of the initialed Form 1449 to the Applicant's representative with the next Office communication.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact the Agent for the Applicant, Fredrick T. French III at 952-253-4123.

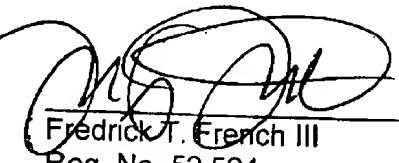
Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC



Date: April 28, 2003

By:


Fredrick T. French III
Reg. No. 52,524
FTF/mar

The mail stamp of the Patent and Trademark Office on card
acknowledges the filing on the date stamped of:

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449;
Copies of 4 Cited References; and return postcard. Sent via First Class
Mail.

Applicant: KUEHN et al.
Application No.: 09/694,293
File No.: 1416.36US03
Due Date:
Initials:
Mailed: PSD/srt November 9, 2001

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